THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) The estimated milk production in the country during 2004-05 and 2005-06 are 92.5 million tonnes and 97.1 million tonnes respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) In addition to the steps taken by State Governments, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has been supplementing the efforts of the State Governments by way of the following schemes to improve the quality and the quantity of milk in the country:

(i) National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding.

(ii) Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme.

(iii) Fodder Development Scheme.

(iv) Intensive Dairy Development Programme.

(v) Assistance to Cooperatives.

(vi) Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production.

(e) and (f) The Government of India has prohibited the export of milk powder, skim milk powder, whole milk powder and milk food for babies from 9-2-2007 to 30.9-2007.

Suicides

1982. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers continue to resort to suicides under drought and debt burden; if so, the number of suicides reported from different States during 2006-07, so far;

(b) whether Government propose to take steps to review and revise the Agriculture Policy to make it more farmer friendly; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in the matter, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) State-wise figures of suicide during recent years as per information received so far from the State Governments is given in the statement [Refer to the Statement-I appended to the Answer to Unstarred Question 1972 (a) and (b)]

(b) and (c) National Commission on farmers has submitted a Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers, with focus on farmers' economic well-being. Government has taken necessary actions to expedite examination of the Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers, Conference of State Ministers for Agriculture and Allied Sectors was held on 22nd December, 2006 to discuss and obtain their views on the Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers and other recommendations of NCF.

Concessions to MNCs and Farmers

1983. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantum of concession in terms of money land, water, electricity given to various multinational companies to attract investments in different States during the last financial year, State-wise; and

(b) the concessions given to the farmers and the total amount of money spent for them during the last financial year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Suicides by farmers

1984. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of farmers who committed suicides in the country from January to December, 2006, State-wise and month-wise;

(b) the States where even a single farmer did not commit suicide;

(c) the details of the total amount assured to be given to the families of the farmers during the period, State-wise;